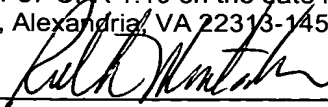


EXPRESS MAIL No.: **EL 304 053 333 US**

Deposited: **October 21, 2003**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

 / **Ruth Montalvo** Date: **10/21/03**

**Customer No. 026418**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Docket No. **GK-HEF-965 / 500639.20032**

Applicant(s): **Wolfgang WEISS**

Application No.:

Filed: **Concurrently herewith**

For: **VACUUM VALVE**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**S I R:**

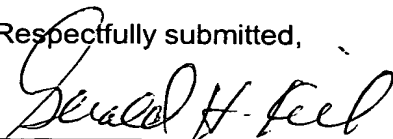
Applicant herewith submits together with the simultaneously patent application this Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and hereby make of record the following references: -

	Document Number	Date	Name and/or Country
<b>AA</b>	<b>4,052,036</b>	<b>10/04/1977</b>	<b>Schertler</b>
<b>AB</b>	<b>4,470,576</b>	<b>09/11/1984</b>	<b>Schertler</b>
<b>AC</b>	<b>4,660,141</b>	<b>04/21/1987</b>	<b>Ceccon, et al.</b>
<b>AD</b>	<b>5,577,707</b>	<b>11/26/1996</b>	<b>Brida</b>
<b>AE</b>	<b>6,431,518</b>	<b>08/13/2002</b>	<b>Geiser</b>
<b>AL</b>	<b>2 205 926</b>	<b>12/21/1988</b>	<b>Great Britain</b>

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement and form PTO-1449 are copies of the documents. All documents are mentioned on pages 1, 2, 10 and 13 of the specification.

This submission is not an admission that the information disclosed in the documents is material to the patentability of the invention disclosed and/or claimed in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



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10/21/03  
GHK:ram

Tel. (212) 521-5400

Enclosures:  
PTO-1449  
6 documents

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**  
(Filed on October 21, 2003)

Docket No. GK-HEF-965 / 500639.20032

Applicant(s): Wolfgang WEISS

Application No.

Group:

Filed: concurrently herewith –October 21, 2003

Examiner:

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Exam. Init		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date Appropriate
	AA	4,052,036	10/04/1977	Schertler			
	AB	4,470,576	09/11/1984	Schertler			
	AC	4,660,141	04/21/1987	Ceccon, et al.			
	AD	5,577,707	11/26/1996	Brida			
	AE	6,431,518	08/13/2002	Geiser			
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number	Date	Country	CLASS	Sub-Class	Translation YES	NO
	AL	2 205 926	12/21/1988	Great Britain				
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							

**OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AV	
	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

Examiner:

Date:

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.